



# CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

## 24-HOUR REPORT

7 JULY 2022

### (U) CALIFORNIA

#### (U) Los Angeles – Man Pleads Guilty to Fraud in EDD Scam

(U) A rapper who boasted in a YouTube music video about getting rich by committing pandemic-related unemployment benefits fraud has agreed to plead guilty to federal fraud and firearms charges, the Justice Department announced yesterday. Fontrell Antonio Baines, 33, a.k.a. “Nuke Bizzle,” of Memphis, Tennessee, has agreed to plead guilty to one count of mail fraud and one count of unlawful possession of a firearm and ammunition by a convicted felon. According to his plea agreement, from July 2020 to September 2020, Baines unlawfully exploited the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) provisions of the CARES Act to obtain unemployment insurance money to which he was not entitled. Baines abused the program to obtain unemployment benefits administered by the California Employment Development Department (EDD) in the names of third parties, including identity theft victims.

SOURCE: 6 July 2022, [US DOJ](#)

#### (U) Palm Desert – Community College Knocked Offline Following Cyberattack

(U) The College of the Desert has fallen victim to a second successful malware attack against its online network in as many years. Most of the college's online services have been offline since 4 July. Currently, its website is not available, campus phone lines have been affected and some, but not all, employees are lacking access to their email accounts, a COD public information officer confirmed on Tuesday. Robles added that the FBI is investigating the incident while the college's information technology staff along with a third-party attempt to "minimize any further disruption."

SOURCE: 5 July 2022, [Desert Sun](#)

### (U) NATIONAL

#### (U) District of Columbia – US Capitol Police Arrest Man for Throwing Molotov Cocktails at Officers

(U) Washington — US Capitol Police arrested a man who had two Molotov cocktails in Washington, DC, yesterday after the suspect allegedly threw one of them at an officer, police said. Bernard L. McCutcheon, 26, of DC, now faces charges including assault on a police officer, possession of a Molotov cocktail and assault with a deadly weapon. McCutcheon allegedly threw one of the bottles at an officer while trying to light it. He also dropped a tequila bottle filled with a petroleum-based accelerant and stuffed with a sock, police said. Capitol Police said the suspect wasn't involved in nearby protests and they don't believe he was targeting the Capitol or members of Congress.

SOURCE: 7 July 2022, [NBC Washington](#)

#### (U) District of Columbia – DOJ Makes 1500 Arrests in Ten Cities During Violent Crime Crackdown

(U) Washington — The Justice Department (DOJ) has made more than 1,500 arrests across ten cities in the past month as part of an operation to crack down on violent crime, according to a news release. The release says that the US Marshals Service completed a 30-day initiative at the end of last month, called Operation North Star, to arrest sex offenders, “violent criminals” and self-identified gang members. The operation prioritized arresting those who used a firearm in their crime or exhibited risk factors associated with violence. The Marshals Service made 230 arrests for homicide and 131 for sexual assault

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and seized 166 firearms, more than \$53,600 in currency and more than 33-kilograms of illegal narcotics, the release states. The arrests occurred in Baltimore, Chicago, Houston, Indianapolis, Los Angeles, Memphis, New Orleans, New York City, Philadelphia and Washington, DC.

SOURCE: 6 July 2022, [The Hill](#)

### **(U) Virginia – Citizen Tipped Off Police Helping to Prevent Mass Shooting on 4 July**

(U) Richmond — Police in Richmond said they thwarted a mass shooting planned for July 4th after a “hero citizen” tipped them off on two suspects, leading to officers seizing three firearms and ammunition from a home ahead of Independence Day. During a press conference yesterday, Richmond Police Department Chief Gerald Smith said a person they are not identifying overheard a conversation about the planned mass shooting and reported the information to police on Friday, 1 July. Police quickly investigated the residence and saw “evidence in plain view” that corroborated what the witness reported, Smith added. Richmond officers were let into the home and seized two assault rifles, one handgun and 223-rounds of ammunition. The police chief repeatedly said the “hero citizen” who tipped them off saved countless lives.

SOURCE: 6 July 2022, [The Hill](#)

### **(U) INTERNATIONAL**

#### **(U) Nigeria – 50 People Held Following Train Attack**

(U) Abuja – At least five children are among the 50 people still held by gunmen who attacked a passenger train near Nigeria’s capital, their families said yesterday as they held a protest demanding more action from authorities to rescue the hostages. As the families protested the 100 days their relatives have been held captive after the attack in the northwest Kaduna state, the Nigeria police dismissed allegations that “not enough” is being done to rescue the victims who are among the thousands either abducted or killed in the last year as the West African nation faces continued armed violence. Gunmen in late March attacked the train with explosives and gunfire, killing seven people and abducting dozens of others. Although no arrest has been made in connection with the attack, police are “still gathering intelligence from locals” to find and rescue the hostages, Kaduna police spokesperson Mohammed Jalige said.

SOURCE: 6 July 2022, [Associated Press](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

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